



### **GeODC Complete Mapping Improvement Project for New Forest District Council**

New Forest District Council has significantly improved the accuracy of essential Council information as a result of a data management project undertaken by GeODC. Following the Ordnance Survey's national programme to improve the accuracy of base mapping New Forest District Council were faced with the challenge of updating 115,000 unique map elements in order to maintain consistent, accurate and up-to-date planning records. Data capture and conversion specialists GeODC completed the project to correct the data which contributed to the implementation of the new planning system within the project timescales.

"The standard of the data captured by GeODC was outstanding," said Sharon Elson, GIS Manager for New Forest District Council. "It is crucial that data is captured accurately as inaccurate data could lead to improper decisions being made. The final delivery of data was loaded directly into our corporate GIS, without us even looking at it, we were that confident in the work of GeODC."

New Forest District Council, situated on the south coast between Southampton and Bournemouth, covers an area of 777 square kilometres. Over 71% of the district is designated as a National Park and the New Forest is known internationally as an area of great landscape and ecological value. The OS PAI programme had a significant impact on Council data as over 900 OS Land-Line tiles were affected, resulting in 115,000 polygons held in 114 different planning datasets needing positional adjustments.

GeODC, having completed a successful pilot project, took less than six months to complete the project, including data verification by the Council. In addition to adjusting the Council planning records in order to match the revised OS base mapping GeODC also corrected errors within the data that were outside the scope of the original contract. "The project was managed in an efficient and structured manner," continued Elson, "and I have no doubts that GeODC played a vital role in enabling us to implement our new planning system on time."

The Ordnance Survey Positional Accuracy Improvement Programme (PAI) was developed to enable the capture of 1:2500 scale mapping to a greater absolute accuracy; improving the accuracy of the position of map features in relation to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. Significantly affecting rural areas, this programme has also improved the relationship between Ordnance Survey mapping and data positioned using GPS.